

Serial No. 09/057,313
Amendment
April 4, 2000

Claim 23, line 2, change "a ramp" to --the ramp--.

Claim 24, line 1, change "loading containers on" to --transporting containers by--.

Add the following new claims 25-28:

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25. A method of transporting containers with a marine vessel comprising the steps of:
selecting a plurality of containers adapted to contain and protect freight in a
marine environment;

B1 D1 D4
lifting a container by means of a vehicle;
causing said vehicle to travel over a ramp to a storage deck of a marine vessel,
said ramp and storage deck having sufficient strength to support said vehicle when said vehicle is
transporting a fully loaded one of said containers;

positioning said container at a desired location on said deck by means of said
vehicle;

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repeating said lifting, causing and positioning steps for each of said plurality of
containers;

securing said containers to said deck at said locations; and
towing said marine vessel with said containers secured to said deck thereof to a
destination site.

26. The method of claim 25 further comprising the step of releasing said container from
said vehicle after said positioning step.

27. The method of claim 16 wherein each container is individually lifted and transported
by said vehicle during said lifting and transporting step.